

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A balloon for a balloon dilatation catheter, comprising:

a balloon body having an expandable region and a balloon waist including an annular wall having a first end adjacent the expandable region, a second end and a length therebetween, the balloon waist including a plurality of voids formed in the annular wall such that the balloon waist has a material volume and a void volume created by the plurality of voids;

wherein the plurality of voids are configured such that the void volume proximate the second end is greater than the void volume proximate the first end of the balloon waist.

2. (Previously Presented) A balloon for a balloon dilatation catheter as in claim 1, wherein the balloon waist has a material volume per unit length, and wherein the plurality of voids reduce the material volume per unit length.

3. (Previously Presented) A balloon for a balloon dilatation catheter as in claim 2, wherein the material volume per unit length decreases in the distal direction.

4. (Previously Presented) A balloon for a balloon dilatation catheter as in claim 3, wherein the size, number and position of the plurality of voids are selected to cause the material volume per unit length to decrease in a distal direction.

5. (Previously Presented) A balloon for a balloon dilatation catheter as in claim 1, wherein a proximal balloon waist and a distal balloon waist each include a plurality of voids, wherein the plurality of voids are shaped and configured such that the balloon waists will have a reduced profile subsequent to thermal reformation.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Withdrawn) A balloon dilatation catheter as in claim 1, wherein the plurality of voids are wedge shaped.

8. (Previously Presented) A balloon for a balloon dilatation catheter as in claim 1, wherein the plurality of voids are circular.

9. (Withdrawn) A balloon dilatation catheter as in claim 1, wherein the plurality of voids are rectangular.

10. (Withdrawn) A balloon dilatation catheter as in claim 1, wherein the plurality of voids are diamond shaped.

11-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) A balloon for a balloon dilatation catheter as in claim 3, wherein the material volume per unit length decreases in the distal direction along a majority of the length of the balloon waist.

30. (Previously Presented) A balloon for a balloon dilatation catheter as in claim 29, wherein the void volume per unit length increases in a distal direction along a majority of the length of the balloon waist.

31-37. (Cancelled)